

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

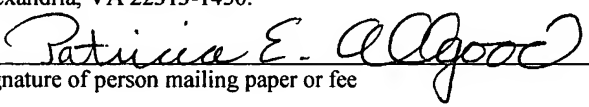
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|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| In re patent application of: |) | |
| |) | Before the Examiner: |
| Frey et al. |) | |
| |) | |
| Serial No. New Application |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit Unknown |
| Filed Herewith |) | |
| |) | November 25, 2003 |
| DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES FOR A |) | |
| POSTERIOR LATERAL DISC SPACE |) | Atty Docket No. 4002-3455/PC401.15 |
| APPROACH |) | |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Patent Application, please enter the following. The required application filing fees are enclosed herewith. Please charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

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| Express Mail Label No EL 984 269 315 US US Date of Deposit Nov. 25, 2003 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  _____ Signature of person mailing paper or fee |
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